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NEW JERSEY REGISTER

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VOLUME 48, ISSUE 18

ISSUE DATE: SEPTEMBER 19, 2016

PUBLIC NOTICES

**LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

48 N.J.R. 1973(a)

Notice of Availability of Funds

New Jersey 2016 Body Worn Camera Assistance Program

Take notice that, in compliance with *N.J.S.A. 52:14-34.4*, the Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ) announces the availability of the following grant program funds:

I. Name of the Program: The New Jersey 2016 Body Worn Camera Assistance Program.

II. Purpose: The purpose of The New Jersey 2016 Body Worn Camera Assistance Program ("2016 BWC Assistance Program" or "BWC Assistance Program") is to support eligible police department agencies and municipalities by providing awards for the purchase of Body-Worn Cameras (BWCs) and related equipment. This notice of availability of funds (NOAF) seeks police department agencies and municipalities (who did not participate in the prior 2015 Attorney General BWC Assistance Program) to apply for funding.

This BWC Assistance Program is funded by the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program. JAG funds are appropriated by Congress to the United States Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), to assist states and local units of government in carrying out programs to prevent and control crime and to improve the functioning of the criminal justice system.

III. Background: BWCs have been identified as a promising tool to help law enforcement perform their duties in their communities. By providing both an audio and video recording of interactions between police officers and members of the public, the use of BWCs have preliminarily been shown to be an effective tool to reduce the number of unwarranted civilian complaints against police officers, increase law enforcement transparency, and act as a tool for de-escalation between police and members of their communities.

To aid police department agencies and municipalities who are exploring the purchase and use of BWCs, the Division of Criminal Justice is offering this assistance program to offset some of the costs associated with the purchase of BWCs and related equipment. The Office of the Attorney General offered a BWC Assistance Program in August of 2015. Over 170 municipal and county departments participated in that program. This 2016 BWC Assistance Program is aimed at assisting those police department agencies and municipalities that did not participate in the previous program. Overall, the primary goal of this 2016 BWC Assistance Program is to enhance and improve the BWC programs of New Jersey's police department agencies and municipalities.

Contingent upon the availability of funding, those department agencies and municipalities who participated in the 2015 BWC Assistance Program may be eligible to receive funding to purchase additional BWCs **at a later time**.

IV. Available Funding and Period of Performance: The total amount of Federal JAG funding available for the 2016 BWC Assistance Program is \$ 550,000. Individual applicants can receive up to \$ 500.00 per BWC or camera "package."

Awards will be made on a competitive basis and are contingent upon the availability of funding. The number of awards available and the total amount of awards depends upon the number of applications received and the number of BWCs requested by each applicant. The Division of Criminal Justice reserves the right to decline any and all applications for funding and to make awards in amounts that may be other than requested.

For successful applicants, funding will be provided on a reimbursement basis only and will be contingent upon compliance BWC Assistance Program conditions and requirements. Funding is only available for the purchase of BWCs or bundled camera "packages" that include the purchase of a BWC. A "package" includes the purchase of a BWC camera and ancillary equipment (for example, software, licenses, software, computer server space etc.). *Subrecipients will only be reimbursed up to \$ 500.00 per each BWC or camera package, or the exact cost of each BWC package, whichever is lower.* No reimbursement will be made solely for ancillary equipment.

The total reimbursement amount may not exceed the subrecipient's total award amount. Cost overages are the sole responsibility of the Subrecipient. Prior to reimbursement, subrecipients will be required to provide sufficient proof of purchase and payment (that is, purchase orders, payment vouchers, invoices, etc.). Subrecipients must obtain quotes and make BWC purchases pursuant to their own documented procurement procedures that reflect applicable State and local laws and regulations, **provided that the procurements conform to applicable Federal law and the standards identified in Federal regulations 2 CFR 200.318 through 200.326. See 2 CFR 200.318.**

Funding provided under this BWC Assistance Program is for new BWCs purchased *on or after the date of award* (that is, funding cannot be used to supplant the cost of existing BWC purchases). Therefore, subrecipients will not be reimbursed for BWCs purchased prior to receiving official notice of their award. The period of performance will be one year.

V. Organizations which may apply for funding under this program: Police department agencies and municipalities (excluding correctional agencies) throughout New Jersey seeking to implement or expand a BWC program who did not participate in the prior 2015 Attorney General BWC Assistance Program are eligible to apply.

VI. Qualifications needed by an applicant to be considered for funding: Eligible county and municipal police departments are those units that are subdivisions of local units of government who employ permanent, regular police officers. Eligible university and college police departments (State, county, private) must employ permanent, armed patrol officers. Eligible county sheriff's offices will be capped at 50 percent of the total number of regular and permanent officers, provided the sheriff's offices can show the number of regular and permanent officers assigned to active patrol duty.

Applicants must be in good standing with all State and Federal agencies with which they have existing grant or contractual relationships. Where appropriate, all applicants must hold current State licenses and certifications.

The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) of 2006 requires the use of a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number as a unique identifier for each entity receiving a Federal award or subaward. Additionally, successful applicants may be required to complete a FFATA form with the subaward package.

To be considered for funding, an eligible police department agency or municipality must submit a completed application, in accordance with BWC Assistance Program requirements, by the submission deadline. To be eligible for reimbursement, each BWC purchase must meet the following minimum technical requirements:

A. Recording Format: The video and audio must be recorded and able to be exported in a standard, open, non-proprietary format, such that each can be played back on commercially available software without processing or conversion.

B. Video Resolution: Video resolution must be a minimum of VGA 640 x 480.

C. Recording Speed: The frame rate must not be slower than 30 frames per second.

D. Field of View: The field of view must be at least 45 degrees or greater.

E. Time/Date Stamping: The device must be capable of providing a time and date stamp.

F. Night Time/Low Light Functionality: The device must have the capability of recording video in night time and low light situations.

G. Battery Life: The BWC battery must be able to record a full shift on a single charge (that is, eight to 12 hours) or permit recharging in the field during a shift, such that the officer does not need to return to the station for a replacement battery.

[page=1974] **H. Audio Quality:** The BWC must be capable of capturing conversational speech at a distance of three feet without wind or excessive background noise.

I. Data exporting: The BWC must be capable of exporting all recorded footage to a data archiving or management system in its original file format and without loss of quality or associated metadata.

J. Synchronization and Metadata: The BWC must be capable of recording video and audio simultaneously and time synchronized. The BWC must have a device clock that is synchronized with an external universal clock when the unit is active for absolute time of day accuracy.

K. Tamper Resistance: The BWC prohibits recordings from being edited or deleted and does not permit the overwriting of existing data before transfer. The BWC has a standard encryption system as part of its operating system to reduce the risk of tampering.

L. Environment Testing: The BWC model being purchased must have undergone an industry standard testing to ensure environmental functionality in a variety of weather conditions and use under constant pressure (for example, repetitive use, drop testing, etc.)

The Division of Criminal Justice reserves the right to make awards upon consideration of the following:

A. New BWC Programs: Funding priority may be given to eligible police department agencies and municipalities who do not currently own any BWCs.

B. BWC Program Expansions: The Division of Criminal Justice may consider the number of BWCs currently owned by the applicant agency when considering requests for funding.

C. Approved Number of Camera Packages: Awards will be based on the total number of approved camera packages multiplied by \$ 500.00, or the exact cost of each BWC package, whichever is lower.

D. No Supplanting: Funding is for new BWC orders and purchases made after the date of notice of award, and cannot be used to supplant the cost of existing purchases of BWCs.

E. Total Number of Regular and Permanent Officers Employed by Each Applicant Agency: The offer of up to \$ 500.00 per BWC or camera package will be limited to the total number of regular and permanent officers, employed by applicant police department agencies and municipalities (excluding correctional agencies).

F. County Sheriff's Offices will be Capped at 50 Percent: Funding offered to county sheriff's offices will be capped at 50 percent of the total number of regular and permanent officers, provided the sheriff's offices can show the number of regular and permanent officers assigned to active patrol duty.

G. Population: Municipal and county funding allocations may be based on municipality and county population, respectively.

H. Uniform Crime Rates: Awards may be based on the Uniform Crime Rates of Counties and Municipalities, as reported in the State of New Jersey 2014 and 2015 Uniform Crime Report.

VII. Procedures for eligible organizations to apply: Application packages are available on the website at: <http://www.nj.gov/oag/dcj/grants/>. Applicants must e-mail their completed applications to DCJGrants@njdcj.org by the submission deadline with a subject line that includes "BWC Program" and the applicant's name (ex: "BWC Application City of George"). Applications that do not comply with the requirements of this NOAF or the Application Requirements will not be considered.

Application Packages will consist of (but may not be limited to) the following, which the applicant shall complete and submit to the Division of Criminal Justice for review:

A. Applicant Information Form

B. Budget Detail Form

C. Application Authorization

D. Applicant policies regarding the use of BWCs:

-- Standard Operating Procedures, directive or order on the use of BWCs in accordance with the Attorney General Law Enforcement Directive 2015-1; *or*

-- A letter from the Applicant requesting BWCs indicating that an SOP, directive, or order on the use of BWCs in accordance with Attorney General Law Enforcement Directive 2015-1 will be submitted to the Division of Criminal Justice within 60 days.

The Division of Criminal Justice reserves the right to decline any and all applications for funding and to award grants in amounts that may be other than requested. At the end of the period of performance, Subrecipients will be required to certify in writing to the Division of Criminal Justice that all approved BWCs or camera packages were purchased.

VIII. Address of the State agency receiving the application:

Phoenix Smith
Division of Criminal Justice
Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex
25 Market Street, 4th Floor, West Wing
PO Box 085
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0085
DCJGrants@njdcj.org

(Applications should not be physically mailed, they should be sent via electronic mail to the e-mail address provided).

IX. Deadline by which applications must be submitted: Applications must be completed and received before 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, October 19, 2016.

X. Date by which notices shall be mailed of approval or disapproval of applications: All applicants will be notified in writing on or about November 19, 2016, as to whether or not the Applicant's proposed project will be funded.